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Letter dated 24 March 2003 from the Permanent Representative of the Syrian Arab Republic to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

The Permanent Representative of the Syrian Arab Republic to the United Nations presents his compliments to the President of the Security Council for the month of March 2003 and, upon instructions from the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic, has the honour to inform him that, on Sunday morning, 23 March 2003, American and British planes bombarded a Syrian civilian bus carrying Syrian workers on their way back to Syria from Iraq.

This unjustifiable assault resulted in the killing of five Syrian nationals and the wounding of many others. This action represents a violation of the Geneva Conventions, in particular the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War of 12 August 1949, and their Additional Protocols.

The Syrian Arab Republic condemns this action and reserves the right to demand compensation according to relevant international laws.

It would be greatly appreciated if the present note were to be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Mikhail **Wehbe**

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